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SGA Flag Resolution

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R05F15

A Resolution to Remove the Mississippi State Flag from University Grounds

Whereas, the flag of the State of Mississippi bears the emblem of the Confederate battle flag;
and

Whereas, the Confederate battle flag has developed into a symbol of historical civil and
racial division; and

Whereas, the Students of The University of Southern Mississippi support the diversity of the
community on the Hattiesburg and Gulf Coast Campuses and wish to promote a safe,
inclusive, and tolerant environment and thereby disconnect themselves from a symbol
of fear and division; and

Whereas, the official position of The University of Southern Mississippi acknowledges the
institutional commitment to tolerance and inclusion in asserting that the current State
flag does not represent the spirit of all Mississippians; and

Whereas, the Student Body of The University of Southern Mississippi acknowledges that the
symbol does not represent the values of the Student Body or of the University and is
inconsistent with the Southern Miss Students' Creed; and

Whereas, the Student Body of The University of Southern Mississippi is determined to
appreciate the value of differences among people, customs, and viewpoints and
oppose hatred, bigotry, and bias toward others; and

Whereas, the Student Body of The University of Southern Mississippi is moreover
determined to exhibit civil behavior, demonstrate responsible citizenry, and do its part
to achieve a positive and secure living and learning environment for all; now,

Therefore, be it resolved by the Senate Branch of the Student Government Association of
The University of Southern Mississippi, that the current flag of the State of
Mississippi should not be flown on the Hattiesburg or Gulf Coast campus of the
University. Furthermore, The University of Southern Mississippi shall not raise the
flag of the State of Mississippi on the Hattiesburg or Gulf Coast campus as long as
the Confederate emblem, in whole or in part, remains on the flag; and therefore,

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Be it further resolved, that the Student Government Association Senate of The University of Southern Mississippi encourage the State legislature to appropriately address this issue with due diligence and with all deliberate speed; and therefore,

Be it further resolved, that copies of this resolution be sent to Mr. Jeffrey George, President of the Student Government Association; Dr. Rodney Bennett, President of The University of Southern Mississippi; Dr. Thomas Burke, Interim Vice President of Student Affairs; and Ms. Wynde Fitts, SGA Advisor. Copies of this resolution shall also be sent to The Student Printz and University Archives for informational and record keeping purposes.

Respectfully submitted the 5th of November 2015.

Dr. Thomas Burke
Interim Vice President of Student Affairs

Wynde Fitts
SGA Advisor

Jeffrey George
SGA President

Kyle Stoner
SGA Vice President

Nathan Barron
Campus at-large